

Magnuson Park Advisory Committee Minutes
Building 11 Second Floor Space
October 9, 2013 from 6 – 7:30 PM

Attending: MPAC Members: Julianna Ross (Chair), Ed Bronsdon (Vice-Chair), Peter Zimmerman, Gail Chiarello, Bob Scully (for Morgan Collins), Tom Kelly, Diana Kincaid, Colby Bradley, Aaron Hoard, Herb Curl, Loren Hill, Nancy Bolin, Rusty Williams. Absent:

Parks staff: Cheryl Fraser, Andy Sheffer, Joanne Orsucci, Karl Fields, Peggy Tosdal.

Guests: Colleen McAleer, Porter Bratten (Mustache Dache).

Chair Julianna Ross called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Announcements from the Vice-Chair:

- Ed Bronsdon announced the University Sunrise Rotary Club was offering a \$20,000 grant to help kids in northeast Seattle.

Approval of the September Minutes. The September 2013 Minutes were approved.”

Public Comment: None

Director’s Report (Cheryl Fraser and Andy Sheffer)

Building 11: The building was now in the City’s hands. The Waldorf School lease had been approved. The Cascade Bicycle Club lease was nearing completion. Improvements for the Sail Sand Point space would be completed by the end of the year.

Building 30: There would be a “soft opening” of the building. Captain Ron Miller would preside over an opening of the Officers Club. The hangar would be open. Artist’s space in the west wing was nearing completion.

Building 18: The bid documents are done, and bids will be put out in early November. Crews are cleaning up the space.

Frog Pond Trail: Andy Sheffer reported that the improvements to the trail would be implemented within the next week. The trail will be a “leaky berm” that maintains the hydraulic connection between the wetlands on either side. Two different types of aggregate will be used for a base course and a top course. In the past there had been opposition to doing this kind of work so Andy wanted to make certain that everyone was in agreement with this direction

Seattle Public Utilities: Andy reported SPU had been great to work with and have been fulfilling their obligations to parks, including:

- 1.) Extending 26kv elec. service to Bldg. 308.
- 2.) Implementing improvements to Sports field dr. by eliminated the “y” and resurfacing the roadway to drain.
- 3.) Implementing part of the headwaters project by constructing the “overlook” bio retention ponds and roadway swale

Building 308: Andy reported that this project is in design and that he is very excited by the aesthetic which it will bring to the south end of the park.

Commissary Pad and Building 308 lease to SCL: Andy will be leasing these properties to SCL as construction staging and offices for their View Ridge project. Funding received will go toward the Bldg. 308 Crew Qtrs. Project.

Headwaters project: Project is complete. Ponds are holding water! Project was constructed by Parks Heavy Equipment Crew and the Seattle Conservations Corps.

Crosswalks: Andy will be installing crosswalk at Sports field Dr. by the Headwaters project per the master plan and would like to make improvements on the park's side of the tennis center if he is able to make it work with available funding.

Arts & Cultural Affairs: "Endless Gates" is an artwork still seeking a home. Since the master plan mentions sculpture as being integral to the part. Relocating the Endless Gates to Magnuson may be worth consideration...Especially since Arts and Cultural Affairs would pay for installation and maintenance.

Interpretation and Outreach: Enrico Patino, A photographer, would like to give a slide show of his recent photos at Magnuson. This might be a good break in the middle of an MPAC meeting and give an opportunity for reflection. Please let Andy know if members are interested in a 10-15 minute presentation.

Mustache Dache Special Event (Porter Bratten): A 5-K run will be held Saturday, November 16th, at 10AM. Run will start at Building 30's south parking lot, cross NE 74th Street (will be closed 9:50AM-10:10AM), run down Sportsfield Drive (closed 10-10:30AM), cross NE 65th at the east end (closed 10:35-10:40AM) and run on a path along the lakeshore to the Junior League parking lot, crossing NE 74th again.

Corinne McAleer noted she ran a business in The Brig and wondered how the closures on NE 74th would affect that. The answer was that there would be a small detour around the Big. Corinne commented that she would suffer a detriment since these were prepaid classes.

The question was raised how much income Parks derives from events like these versus the disruption they cause. Pete Zimmerman thought MPAC should examine a map of the park and make suggestions on the routing; Rusty Williams pointed out the Parks website has a map of Magnuson. Julianna noted that Special Events approves these events, and MPAC had already brought concerns to them. Special Events was listening, but there some events already approved and in the pipeline. This was probably one of them. Ed Brondsdon noted the Zombie Run had traffic backed up.

[At 6:35PM GC left and Ed Brondsdon took over note-taking]

Special Events (Cheryl Fraser): Cheryl introduced Joanne Orsucci who will now be taking over scheduling of events at Magnuson Park. Joanne has been associated with scheduling city-wide events with Seattle Parks and Recreation for some time. A committee that reviews special events is made up of various City of Seattle representatives and it meets monthly. Certain criteria for larger special events must be met. Costs increase for a Special Events permit depending upon the size of each event: 0 – 1,000 attendees, 1,000 or more, etc. The lowest price for a permit is \$250; highest is \$50,000. More information is available at: www.seattle.gov/specialevents

Joanne is working on producing an on-line calendar for events at Magnuson Park. It will start with events scheduled from Joanne's office; perhaps in the coming months it may include events orchestrated by park partners also located in the park.

Concerns were raised and a discussion followed regarding special events at Magnuson Park. All agreed that circulation issues relating to only two current entrances/exits to the park for motor vehicles is a major problem. Tensions with special events overall especially regarding regional / local nature inherent given Magnuson Park's makeup. Tom Kelly raised four concerns.

- 1) Noise: Sound can be good for an event but can also disturb other activities in the park; balance is needed;
- 2) Parking: Big “elephant in the room”
- 3) Environmental Impacts...what...how
- 4) Safety...overbooking...staff themselves sometimes can’t get around inside the park. Joanne noted that she was new in the role for Magnuson Park but committed to improvement. Cheryl Fraser echoed this commitment. Colleen from Gymboree passed around a list of draft ideas for scheduling parameters for special events at Magnuson Park.

Joanne noted that some events are already permitted...have to follow those commitments...but work to alleviate some of these issues (e.g. November 24...ugly sweater run...perhaps 5,000 participants)

Bicycle policy for Magnuson Park (Tom Kelly/Ed Bronsdon):_Public hearing is upcoming on city-wide bicycle policy in Seattle Parks. Tom’s view that crushed rock counts as pavement alleviated some concerns that Ed Bronsdon previously had shared regarding certain paths in the park not being accessible to cyclists with disabilities. Diana Kincaid asked about the possibility of trail user separation down along the Promenade, if issues arise.

Legacy Plan (Diana Kincaid): Diana Kincaid provided an updated noting that there have been a number of meetings seeking community input. October 17 is the next community meeting at Miller Community Center. Large public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 7...notes to the plan regarding Magnuson Park...complete the wetlands and the four athletic fields,...\$2+ million...what else at Magnuson? ...37 specific investments proposed overall for the City.

Other Business

Tom Kelly noted that UW students will be involved in some restoration projects including Kite Hill.

Pete Zimmerman noted that Santos Place was having a major upgrade to the outer shell of its building.

By unanimous agreement the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Bronsdon & Gail Chiarello